

# New Jersey Agricultural Statistics Service

*a field office of the National Agricultural Statistics Service  
United States Department of Agriculture*



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## 2003 BLUEBERRY STATISTICS

The 2003 growing season was very wet. Frequent rains and heavy cloud cover during late spring and early summer delayed development of blueberries to their marketable size and quality. The blueberry crop's bloom set was average. Rain continuing into the summer months also delayed harvest. In spite of weather challenges during the growing season, production and price were both good.

The total value of the 2003 blueberry crop was \$45.7 million, the second highest amount on record. Utilized production, at 40.0 million pounds, decreased 2 percent from 2002. The overall season average price was \$1.14 per pound, the highest price ever recorded for New Jersey. The average fresh market price was \$1.20 per pound, while the processing price was \$0.87 per pound.

The area harvested, at 7,500 acres, increased 100 acres from a year earlier. The state average yield per acre was 5,330 pounds, compared with 5,680 pounds per acre in 2002.

Atlantic and Burlington Counties accounted for 96 percent of the area harvested and 99 percent of New Jersey's utilized production. The top blueberry producing county in New Jersey was Atlantic County, with 5,900 acres harvested and an average yield of 5,970 pounds per acre. Utilized production for Atlantic County was 35.2 million pounds. Burlington County producers harvested 1,300 acres with an average yield of 3,380 pounds per acre and utilized production of 4.4 million pounds.

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<http://www.nass.usda.gov/nj/>

**Blueberry Harvested Acres, Yield, Production, Price,  
& Value of Utilized Production, by State, 2003**

State	Area Harvested	Yield per Acre <sup>1/</sup>	Utilized Production
	- acres -	- lbs -	- 1,000 lbs -
Alabama	320	1,410	450
Arkansas	550	2,820	1,550
Florida	1,900	1,840	3,500
Georgia	4,600	3,700	17,000
Indiana	600	4,170	2,500
Michigan	15,400	3,900	60,000
<b>New Jersey</b>	<b>7,500</b>	<b>5,330</b>	<b>40,000</b>
New York	700	2,860	2,000
North Carolina	4,200	5,360	22,500
Oregon	3,000	8,330	25,000
Washington	2,200	6,000	13,200
Total	40,970	4,580	187,700

1/ Yield is based on utilized production.

State	Value of Utilized Production	Price per Pound		
		Fresh	Processed	All
	- 1,000 dollars -	- - - cents per pound - - -		
Alabama	482	107.0	1/	107.0
Arkansas	2,067	133.0	1/	133.0
Florida	18,200	520.0	1/	520.0
Georgia	18,790	164.0	63.0	111.0
Indiana	2,868	132.0	78.0	115.0
Michigan	61,440	130.0	84.0	102.0
<b>New Jersey</b>	<b>45,690</b>	<b>120.0</b>	<b>87.0</b>	<b>114.0</b>
New York	2,578	130.0	85.0	129.0
North Carolina	34,777	185.0	78.0	155.0
Oregon	21,790	109.0	70.0	87.2
Washington	12,068	133.0	77.0	91.4
Total	220,750	149.0	78.3	118.0

1/ Small quantities of processed blueberries are included in fresh to avoid disclosure of individual operations.

**New Jersey Blueberry Harvested Acres, Yield, & Production,  
by County, 2001 - 2003**

Year and County	Acres Harvested	Yield per Acre <sup>1/</sup>	Production		Utilized Production	
			Total	Utilized	Fresh <sup>2/</sup>	Processed
	- acres -	- lbs -	- - 1,000 lbs - -		- - 1,000 lbs - -	
<u>2001</u>						
Atlantic	5,400	5,910	--	31,900	--	--
Burlington	1,500	2,930	--	4,400	--	--
Other Counties	500	1,400	--	700	--	--
Total	7,400	5,000	38,000	37,000	29,000	8,000
<u>2002</u>						
Atlantic	5,400	6,630	--	35,800	--	--
Burlington	1,500	3,470	--	5,200	--	--
Other Counties	500	2,000	--	1,000	--	--
Total	7,400	5,680	43,000	42,000	37,000	5,000
<u>2003</u>						
Atlantic	5,900	5,970	--	35,200	--	--
Burlington	1,300	3,380	--	4,400	--	--
Other Counties	300	1,330	--	400	--	--
Total	7,500	5,330	41,000	40,000	33,000	7,000

1/ Yield is based on utilized production.

2/ Includes quantities used in farm household or given away.

"- -" means that the data is not available at the county level.

**New Jersey Blueberry Price & Value of Production, 2001 - 2003**

Year	Season Average Price			Value of Production
	Fresh	Processing	All	Utilized
	- - - cents per pound - - -			- \$1,000 -
2001	109.0	64.0	99.0	36,730
2002	117.0	70.0	111.0	46,790
2003	120.0	87.0	114.0	45,690

**New Jersey Blueberry Area Harvested,  
by County, 1996 - 2003**

<b>Year</b>	<b>Atlantic County</b>	<b>Burlington County</b>	<b>Other Counties</b>	<b>Total</b>
	- acres -	- acres -	- acres -	- acres -
1996	5,100	1,900	500	7,500
1997	5,300	1,700	400	7,400
1998	5,400	1,700	400	7,500
1999	5,400	1,600	500	7,500
2000	5,400	1,600	500	7,500
2001	5,400	1,500	500	7,400
2002	5,400	1,500	500	7,400
2003	5,900	1,300	300	7,500
Average	5,413	1,600	450	7,463

**New Jersey Blueberry Yield Per Acre <sup>1/</sup>,  
by County, 1996 - 2003**

<b>Year</b>	<b>Atlantic County</b>	<b>Burlington County</b>	<b>Other Counties</b>	<b>Total</b>
	- lbs -	- lbs -	- lbs -	- lbs -
1996	5,860	1,840	1,200	4,530
1997	5,770	1,650	1,500	4,590
1998	5,850	2,240	1,500	4,800
1999	6,330	2,500	1,600	5,200
2000	5,440	2,380	1,600	4,530
2001	5,910	2,930	1,400	5,000
2002	6,630	3,470	2,000	5,680
2003	5,970	3,380	1,330	5,330
Average	5,970	2,549	1,516	4,958

1/ Yield is based on utilized production.

**New Jersey Blueberry Utilized Production,  
by County, 1996 - 2003**

<b>Year</b>	<b>Atlantic County</b>	<b>Burlington County</b>	<b>Other Counties</b>	<b>Total</b>
	- 1,000 lbs -	- 1,000 lbs -	- 1,000 lbs -	- 1,000 lbs -
1996	29,900	3,500	600	34,000
1997	30,600	2,800	600	34,000
1998	31,600	3,800	600	36,000
1999	34,200	4,000	800	39,000
2000	29,400	3,800	800	34,000
2001	31,900	4,400	700	37,000
2002	35,800	5,200	1,000	42,000
2003	35,200	4,400	400	40,000
Average	32,325	3,988	688	37,000

**New Jersey Apple, Blueberry, & Peach  
Value of Utilized Production, 1996 - 2003**

Year	Apples	Blueberries	Peaches
	- \$1,000 -	- \$1,000 -	- \$1,000 -
1996	8,781	33,010	33,649
1997	7,271	33,980	29,185
1998	6,608	28,360	30,518
1999	6,375	36,590	25,992
2000	6,183	36,100	24,774
2001	8,117	36,730	28,350
2002	5,640	46,790	25,194
2003	6,000	45,690	28,520
Average	6,872	37,156	28,273

## Blueberry Rankings by State, 2003

State	Rank	Harvested Acres
Michigan	1	15,400
<b>New Jersey</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>7,500</b>
Georgia	3	4,600
North Carolina	4	4,200
Oregon	5	3,000
Washington	6	2,200
Florida	7	1,900
New York	8	700
Indiana	9	600
Arkansas	10	550
Alabama	11	320

State	Rank	Yield per Acre <sup>1/</sup> (lbs)
Oregon	1	8,330
Washington	2	6,000
North Carolina	3	5,360
<b>New Jersey</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5,330</b>
Indiana	5	4,170
Michigan	6	3,900
Georgia	7	3,700
New York	8	2,860
Arkansas	9	2,820
Florida	10	1,840
Alabama	11	1,410

1/ Yield is based on utilized production.

State	Rank	Utilized Production (1,000 lbs)
Michigan	1	60,000
<b>New Jersey</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>40,000</b>
Oregon	3	25,000
North Carolina	4	22,500
Georgia	5	17,000
Washington	6	13,200
Florida	7	3,500
Indiana	8	2,500
New York	9	2,000
Arkansas	10	1,550
Alabama	11	450

State	Rank	Value of Utilized Production (\$1,000)
Michigan	1	61,440
<b>New Jersey</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>45,690</b>
North Carolina	3	34,777
Oregon	4	21,790
Georgia	5	18,790
Florida	6	18,200
Washington	7	12,068
Indiana	8	2,868
New York	9	2,578
Arkansas	10	2,067
Alabama	11	482